for permanent Accreditation on 6-2-2004 to World Anti Doping Agency (WADA).

Expenditure on preparations for 2004 Olympics

1618. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total expenditure incurred on preparation for the 2004 Olympics;

(b) the details of the item-wise expenditure;

(c) whether it is a fact that there has been no effort to select school going youth for future Olympics;

(d) whether Government is putting too much emphasis on older athletes; and

(e) the details of the strategy which depends on old timers rather than new blood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-RESIDENT INDIANS AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The training of sportsperson for major international events including Olympic Games is an on-going process. The disciplines in which India is likely to achieve good results are identified and more concentrated inputs are given to these disciplines. No separate budget is earmarked for various multi-disciplinary events including Olympic Games. The sportspersons are provided required assistance from various schemes of Government. The details of releases/ expenditure incurred from these schemes from 2002-03 till 12th August, 2004 is as under:—

(i) Assistance to National Sports Federations—Rs. 92.54 crores; (ii) National Sports Development Fund—Rs. 1.91 crores; (iii) Scheme Relating to Talent Search and Training — Rs. 1.97 crores.

(c) The sports talent in the youth is identified and nurtured by Sports Authority of India (SAI) under its various schemes such as National Sports Talent Scheme, Army Boys Sports Company, SAI Training Centres, Special Area Games Centres. The children who have been performing consistently well at the international and national level are imparted training under the Centre of Excellence Scheme of the SAI.

All the above Schemes concentrate on popularizing and training children and youth in sports discipline which are held in the various multi-disciplinary events including Olympics.

(d) and (e) The talent, merit and fulfilment of the provision of the various Schemes are given priority irrespective of age. As such Government provides assistance to individual sports person/team as recommended by the concerned National Sports Federation.

Assistance to Uttaranchal for Construction of Sports Stadia

†1619. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether targets have been fixed to construct big and small sports stadia in various States;

(b) the number of big and small stadia proposed to be built in Uttaranchal during the present plan period alongwith locations thereof; and

(c) the details of the economic assistance being provided to the State of Uttaranchal for the construction of Stadia?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.